Graham Cook delivered a prophetic message and sermon for Christian Life Center on Sunday, February 23, 2003 based on 2 Kings 13:14-19.

Graham:

Great, Isn't it amazing there are times when God sneaks up on you, tells you something you already know, but says it in such a way it breaks your heart. We were singing that last song there and I just felt like the Lord whispered into my ear, "Graham, I really died you know." And it's like, I knew it but I didn't know it to that depth… that He who had always been alive, died. And a, I don't know it just really shook me. That He would go to those depths, to deny Himself, the one thing He'd always been, which was life, always been alive. Man I hate it when that happens.

Ok, I called David up this morning cause the Lord woke me up at 4 O'clock this morning. My brain was half there thinking it was time to get up anyway. But when I woke up, well I didn't really wake up, my eyes kind of like came into focus. And felt like the Lord say to me, "Graham, I am jealous to be zealous." I'm thinking, what's that? And a, I woke up and I had this sense that the Lord was just saying, "come on get up. I want to say something to you."

I phoned David at a 8:30 this morning, something like that, David I really feel like I've got a prophetic word for the church. And if you got your Bibles there, I want you to turn to 2 Kings 13: I want to put it into kind of scriptural context, which it really fits. I feel that the Lord really wants to do. It's been interesting Dave and I sat before the meeting. And he was telling me about what he felt from the message he gave last week, there's a new season starting, because that's the only thing that the Lord has been talking to me about this morning is that there is a new season that is here.

NAS 2 Kings 13:14 When Elisha became sick with the illness of which he was to die, Joash the king of Israel came down to him and wept over him and said, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"

He's just about to loose all of his security.

15 And Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and arrows." So he took a bow and arrows. 16 Then he (Elisha) said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." And he put his hand on it, then Elisha laid his hands on the king's hands. 17 And he said, "Open the window toward the east," and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot!" And he shot. And he (Elisha) said, "The LORD's arrow of victory, even the arrow of victory over Aram; for you shall defeat the Arameans at Aphek until you have destroyed them." 18 Then he (Elisha) said, "Take the arrows," and he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground," and he struck it three times and stopped. 19 So the man of God was angry with him and said, "You should have struck five or six times, then you would have struck Aram until you would have destroyed it. But now you shall strike Aram only three times."

There is a symbolic prophetic code here, which I hope is about to appear on the screen there we go

Symbolic Prophetic Code (screen)

- **Bow**: Power of the Holy Spirit in your life
- **Arrows**: The specific word of God to you personally
- **Your Hand**: You taking responsibility to let God move in your life. It's your response to His Ability.
- **Elisha's Hand**: The hand of God coming upon you at this time.
- **Window**: A season of opportunity
- **East**: A new day/When everything changes
- **Shoot**: You obedience to believe God and cooperate with Him at this time
- **Arrow of the Lord's deliverance**: Freedom to become what God wants you to be next
- **Arrow of deliverance from Syria**: Freedom from enemy activity in your life
- **Aphek**: The place of enemy superiority that's going to get turned over

- **Strike**: To apply God's specific word with His express permission

- **Ground**: Your current circumstances

Graham

- The bow in this story represents the power of the Holy Spirit in your life
- The arrows in this narrative represent the specific word of God to you personally,
  and when he talked about
- Your hand its talking about you taking responsibility to let God move in your life, it's like responsibility is your response to His ability
- Elisha's hand represents the hand of God that is coming upon you at this time
- The window is literally a window or a season of opportunity, windows do not open permanently, windows are prophetic and they are seasonal, they represent a certain space of time with in which something must occur
- The east represents a new day, a new dawn, when everything changes
- The word shoot represent your obedience to believe God and cooperate in this time
- The arrow of the Lord's deliverance is literally the freedom to become what God wants you to be next.
- The arrow of deliverance from Syria or Aram is literally the freedom from enemy activity in your life.
- Aphek represents the place of enemy superiority that's going to get turned over
- The word strike means to apply God's specific Word with His expressed permission
- The ground literally represents the ground of your current circumstances and your life

So with that as a back drop, let me prophecy to you:

There is a series of battles coming to the church, coming to us as a people. However, this is a different type of battle, one that many of us may never have seen before. This is not a battle initiated by the enemy. He is not responsible. This is a war whose origin is in the heart of God . He is coming to fight for us. And what ever is in your circumstances right now, that is contrary to Him, to His Kingdom, and to who He is, and to the call over your life, He is going to make war against it. He is about to launch a forced strike over the enemy. He is starting trouble and He's going to jolly well finish it. He is giving us now a certainty of victory. And we are going to learn how to stand in the power and the substance of that victory. Our lives are in trouble now. God is going to trouble the one, who has been troubling us. In our lives right now, He is looking for enemy activity. He's looking for evidence of our inability to change. And He is going to disarm the enemy and in the process He will rearm this church with weapons of warfare that will cause us to have breakthroughs on the left and on the right. God is setting foot into our lives to reclaim territory. He will produce in us, in this process, an anointing to break out of the trap of the enemy, out of our circumstances, out of our bad habits, and everything else, in order that the Lordship of Christ maybe fully evident in your life and in mine. In this process the Lord is also going to be laying the foundation of a warfaring community, that will rise up in this region to police the heavens. God is moving and we must move with Him. Because God is declaring war. There are battles over health, employment, families, finances, sin, bad habits, immorality, mental health, depression, ministry, business,

leadership, revelation. The church has been held back from claiming and realizing her supernatural inheritance. These battles that God will wage in us and through us, will become the making of us. They will serve us. They will be our training ground and our proving ground. And the Lord will teach us obedience, authority, and power in these days. He's going to literally train our hands for war. Every attack of God upon your circumstances will see you come to a place of increase and prosperity with in that situation. Every weapon of God will release us and prosper us to thrive in the Kingdom. Men and women of war will rise up in this place there will be a breakthrough in intercession. We will see a worship anointing that will touch the throne of God. And I had a sense when I heard that in my spirit, that the Lord said to me, that the church here, the worship group here, will write a new album of prophetic praise for warfare, that will have an impact upon the region and upon the nation. That in this place, a river of encouragement will rise up, that will touch the state and the nation and the nations. That a prophetic community would rise that would know how to fight. An army will emerge in the audience of the current church. We may feel like we are in the trenches now suffering, but God is going to go over the top, to take on the enemy…and we must go with Him, secure in His power to protect us. In these battles, God is establishing us in our rightful place. And we will discover that these battles will in effect become the place of our enlargement. In these battles, a window of opportunity has opened, for something new to happen in this church. We're coming into an end of an age. And the church must be positioned to receive all that God is releasing. There will be some easy fights and some hard fights. But the Lord wants you to know that the harder the fight the bigger the breakthrough. Remember this the Lord says I will fight for you, you must learn to fight with me. Stand with me in faith and you will see the salvation of God and His awesome power to deliver and set free. You will fight for each other. From house to house, there will be seasons times of extraordinary meetings being called. But God will breakthrough in power in those corporate gatherings. We will see homes that are under attack being filled with warriors and believing people. Because we will send out a message to the enemy, if you attack one of us, we're all going to come after you. And God is going to bring us to a place, as a warfaring community, that we will take an enemy attack as a personal and corporate insult to the person of Jesus Christ. There is a warning here. The Lord says do not let your response be limited by your vision. But let it be expanded by a child like faith. At least a child like faith that looks at the enemy and says, My God is bigger than you. And we are going to learn how to be outraged and indignant at the enemy. We are in the process of losing all of our passivity, because the Lord is looking at you and saying, "It is a time for a change of regime." We don't realize how much we live under, how much we put up with, how much we cope with, how much we accommodate. Well, the day of accommodation is over. We are going to understand that battles are only designed for breakthrough. That's why it's important for us to learn how to strike the ground.

Ok so let me unpack that prophetic word a little bit. Yah there's a series of instructions here that we need to learn how to comply with. Any strategy around the prophetic always speaks of a process. A process is a series of steps to achieve the purposes of God. So let me explain the process and the strategy that we need to adopt, in order for that word to come to pass.

The bow and the arrows represent the Spirit and the Word combining together in our lives. It's the ability of God to speak and move in power. Our part is to take seriously both the Word and the promise of fulfillment of that Word and also take seriously the power and the ministry of the Holy Spirit to achieve it. The Word and the Spirit must combine in our lives for the rest of our life. And the reason I think that many of us are poverty stricken at times is because the Spirit and the Word do not combine when they need to.

That's changing, eh? We're going to learn never again be casual about the Word of God. This is really vital, beloved. God has given you something to put in your hand. And in this process, you must identify the Word of the Lord to you, right now in this season.

What is it that God wants to attack first in your life that the enemy has got hold of? What problem, what difficulty? Cause I can sense, God in the Spirit, is rolling up His sleeves and saying OK, what's first? Maybe you've got a previous promise or prophetic Word over your life you may have let it drop. Well now's the time to pick it back up again because the answer is still yes. It could be a new Word that God wants to give you. Let's really look.

Let's examine closely. Let's look at closely what God has been saying to us. And let's look at, let's make a list of all the things we would like God to attack. Understand the mind of the Lord right now, behind this Word. He is really really serious…in a happy kind of way. Cause there are times, you know, when you deliver a prophetic Word and you know that this Word has been in the heart of God for a while. He's just been looking for us to get to a point of desperation and when you get to a point of desperation what happens is, as David said earlier, all the ground of your life gets plowed up. And you get desperate enough to do it, God's way and God's time.

I don't know about you but I am in a place of desperation right now. I like who I am, but there's more about me that's coming and I want to discover what that is. I feel that my life is good, but the good in the enemy of the best. And I'm desperate for the totality and the fullness. I don't want to walk in measure, when there is the measure in the stature of the fullness that is available. I feel pretty desperate right now. I don't feel that I'm in a bad place. I'm in a good place. But I want to be in a better place and I am desperate for something better.

The hands represent your submission to God in this next season. As you reach out and take the Word, His hand will be upon you in power. And you will grow in that Word. Beloved it's important to understand don't just touch the Word take it, grab it, take it put it in your fist and don't let it go. This double handed, Elisha putting his hand on Joash's hand, it speaks of a shared cooperation in church, that we're going to be finding ourselves working together in families, in cell group, contact groups, in our relationships, in our friendships. We're going to be working together, double handed, that none of us is just working this through by ourselves. So we're going find creative ways to double team together for the purposes of God. And we are going to discover what it really means to cooperate with the Holy Spirit.

It's important here though that you obey the Word, regardless of past experiences. Beloved, we all know there a times in our past, when we have received Words, but we have not really followed those Words through to the end result. We have done it for a little, that's because some of us have the attention span of a gnat. And we need to kind of increase that. yeah? We've been half hearted in our approach to the general Word of God in scripture and also the specific Word of God in prophecy. There is a danger in only going half way, the promise must be obeyed.

There was a time in Luke 5 when Jesus said to the disciples, verse 3. He'd been using their boats for ministry. Of course all the time He was using their boats in ministry, they weren't earning a living. He sat in the boat preaching to people on the shore. So He said to them, OK, so let's take the boats out there let's launch out into the deep. And let down your nets for a catch. And Simon said, Master we worked hard all night. And we caught nothing. But, nevertheless, I will do as you say and let down the nets.

It's time for us to launch out into the deep. And we may feel like we've launched out before, but I don't know if we've ever launched out whole heartedly before. Maybe we have. Maybe we haven't. That's for you to determine eh? But let me say this, do not be a prisoner of what you know that has never helped you. We've done this all night long and nothing happened. I think I've been here before. And nothing works. Your previous experience of failure has nothing to do with the current Word of success. Get it into your head. Your previous experiences of failure has nothing to do with the current Word about your success. There is always a, nevertheless, at your Word, I will. That's always the

response that should define who we are as a company of people. Nevertheless, Lord, at your Word, I will.

Interesting, later on in John 21:4-8. When the same word came, here is Jesus, after the resurrection, on the shore with a fire going, wanting to cook breakfast. And the boys are all out there cause Peter has got annoyed about waiting and he's just gone out fishing. And the boys are all out there. And Jesus shouts out, Let your net out on the other side of the boat. And suddenly there began this the weight of fish. And Peter looked up, cause he remembers, and he said, It's the Lord and he dives fully clothed into the water and swims to the shore. What's interesting though is that this time there was no hesitation when the Word came. They just immediately did it. But maybe those good ole boys learned something, eh?

You know what I feel the Lord saying to us, "We must be prepared to be astonished. We must prepare ourselves to be astonished. Because your astonishment is going to be a part of your testimony in this next season. And everyone that you connect with across this region across the state across the nation around the nations, everyone is going to come into contact with your fresh ability to be astonished by what God is going to do. So our whole persona in the Spirit is going to change. We're going to become astonished. And because we are astonished in our ministry God will do astonishing things.

Right now, we need to open the East window. How many of us have been praying in the last year or two, God open a window in heaven? Come on let's see your hand, look around. Why have you been praying that? It's something in your heart that just kept saying Lord open a window, open a window in heaven. I believe that God is saying to us today that the window is not opening, it's open. It's open. This is not a word that something is going to come, this is a word that says something is here. The window has opened. There is a window of opportunity.

Understand that windows do not open for long. They are seasonal. The east means literally the dawn of a new day. The widow is the opportunity. Put together it signifies an opportunity to come to a place of renewal and transformation. The renewal is permanent. The opportunity is seasonal. Therefore, we have a short season to become permanently changed.

The principle is this, when the opportunity of a lifetime comes, make sure you act with in the lifetime of that opportunity. Yeah? I'll say it again. When the opportunity of a lifetime comes, make sure you act with in the lifetime of that opportunity.

You know whenever drama and the prophetic combine, an event is happening, that has huge significance. It's a powerful combination to release something. And we have to learn to obey prophetic instruction in these days. Because it will determine the difference between success and failure. When we are learning to obey prophetic instruction, some of the things that God will ask us to do, will be embarrassing. He'll ask us to do something that is not really me. I don't think God gives a hoot about what is really you or not. He's just saying, this is what I want, this therefore, is what you must give me.

When prophecy comes in power, a window of opportunity opens in the heavens, What have you been praying for? What are your current frustrations about your life and walk with God? What are the sighs and the longings coming from in your heart about you and the Holy Spirit? What are your present problems and current barriers? The good news is, a window has opened and God will fight for you.

But you have to learn to shoot. Remember, what we said, to shot means the power of obedience. In basketball, it's no good being on the court if you can't shoot. Yeah? You've got to shoot. When you get the opportunity. You only win if you shoot. If you don't shoot, you get nothing. And it's really important, beloved, at this time we need to learn

obedience. We need to become obedient. And we need to continue to obey. This is a season not just of power, not just of breakthrough, not just of warfare and success… it is a season of obedience. Now we're going to learn something and comply with something and submit to something, that will be there for the rest of our life. We are learning how to cooperate with the Word and the Spirit.

Look at me for a minute, you know I love being in this church, eh? I'm proud to be in this church. I'm proud that this is my American home. I love being in the country. I have loved this country for 29 years. I prayed for 17 years before God would let me come. I love this place. But guys, I need to rebuke you. It is time to stop being lazy with the promises of God. We must learn to use the promises of God more effectively. Our whole future depends on hangs on this. Course I include myself in that rebuke, so let me just step outside myself and talk to myself for a minute, you, Ok!

There is one part of that code that is actually hidden. It talked about the bow and the arrows the part that is hidden, is the bow string. The arrow is the promise of God remember? The bow is the power of the Holy Spirit. The bowstring represents your capacity and willingness to be stretched. Because unless you allow yourself to be stretched, that arrow is not going to have any power. The flight of an arrow depends upon the tensile strength of the bow and the bowstring working together. Without that tensile strength nothing is going to happen.

What does that speak of? It speaks about your relationship with the Holy Spirit. And your relationship with the Holy Spirit is designed to actually stretch your faith, to stretch your anointing, to stretch you so that you increase in power to overcome. God doesn't just drop things on us. He gives things to us in the process of learning how to walk with Him. And as God stretches you there's an increase that comes behind that. He increases your anointing. He increases your faith. He increases your understanding. When we allow ourselves to be stretched, we are also allowing ourselves to become enlarged. So that we can become bigger and bolder in the power and purposes of God.

So we are going to be in a season of stretching and growth. A time of tension in the church here. Necessary, valuable tension. Creative tension. Remember you've heard me say a number of times, tension doesn't means there's something wrong, it means there's something happening. There is no movement without tension. If you sat in your lazyboy at home watching the Kings trash the Lakers, when you reach out, to take hold of your cup of coffee, the part of you that's reaching out is in tension cause you can't take hold of anything unless your hand is in tension. So tension is about, what? It's about griping something. It's about taking hold of something. Tension in the Spirit enables us to take hold of God and take hold of one another. The question is, what is it right now that God wants you to grip in His name?

So this is a promised time of breakthrough. It's also a time when we are going to learn to get tough with our own situation. It's also a time we're going to learn how to be strong in the Word. It's also a time for us to get ready to grow as a soldier. The tougher your circumstances are to change, the stronger your anointing will develop. But God is going to fight for us. The weaker you feel in yourself the more confidant you'll become in the Lord. Because confidence in God is the only antidote to human weakness. Sometimes God doesn't want to make us strong. He wants to keep us weak, to give us an overwhelming confidence. So here am ,I in my vulnerability, and God is going to be to me everything that He is… I am confident.

And I want to say to us, in the season, I believe, some situations will resist us initially, but those difficulties are designed to give us the opportunity to learn how to press into the Lord. Remember this partnership between Word and Spirit. But in those difficulties, we are going to be stretched. Prepare to be stretched because the power you will gain is

going to be huge.

But understand this, everything must fall. Because God is fighting for us. He does not want a partial victory. He wants a total annihilation. Inactivity in the Spirit leads to sterility. It leads to a staleness of life. It leads to stale faith, low expectation in Chris. And sometimes, its our inactivity to cooperate with Word and Spirit that causes bondages to take hold of us in our own unbelief. Unbelief always creates a vacuum that the devil is more than pleased to fill.

Question: What is the arrow of the Lord's deliverance for you in this season? Remember we said it represents your freedom to become what the Lord sees for you in *(tape break)* How does he see you? What does He see you holding in your life in this next season? Truth is God wants to break you into the vision that He has for you.

In order for Moses to really do the job that God wanted for him, in order for him to go down and to speak to the most despoted ruler on the planet, in the most occult nation on earth, in order for him to go down there and demand that over a million people be set free, he had to see himself as God saw him. So check out Exodus 7:1. It's an incredible theological statement from God, which most theologians I know cannot explain. Cause God looks at Moses and said, "Moses, see I have made you as God to Pharaoh and Aaron shall be your prophet." What an amazing statement. But I need you to see it, cause if you don't see it, you cannot become it.

Beloved, there is something for you to see about yourself in this season. God is going to show you who you really are in the Spirit. He going to show you what He's making you into. And I think it will be astonishing for us.

What me? You're kidding. No, I'm not kidding. When I look at you, that's what I see. Gideon hiding away in a winepress making bread, like you do when you are depressed. Full of questions, angry at so many things, low self image, and the youngest and the poorest tribe of Manassas and God just comes along and just said, "Gideon, you're a mighty man." Before that statement, he didn't feel at all that he was mighty. He couldn't see anything, but God spoke to him in such a way that suddenly, he saw it. You mighty man of valor. The very same day, he pulls down an occult stronghold in his own home town. You have to see something in the Spirit before you can become it. And the arrow of the Lord's deliverance is God's going to breath through your mind sets about your self, and say this is who you are in the Spirit. See it.

Prophecy and warfare must combine to produce a breakthrough. Most prophecy is usually fulfilled in a fight. Most prophecy brings us to the point of fighting. That's why Paul's advice to Timothy, in 1 Tim 1:18 was "this charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by those Words, you may wage the good warfare."

God gives you prophecy because it's like you own personal sword in your hand. There's always a violence around the prophetic. That's way the enemy seeks to kill the prophet. Prophetic people teach us to fight. We have to learn what a good fight is. A good fight is one that you don't loose. Otherwise, it's not a good fight, eh?

The important question to ask then, is this, with the arrow of the Lord's deliverance, what will God develop in me in this season of change? What's He going to put into me in terms of ministry, anointing? What anointing am I suppose to experience and enjoy in this next season? What's that about?

The other two question you should always ask in a move of God, you find them in Acts 2, the first one is in Acts 2:12, What does this mean?

Second question Acts 2:37 What must we do? The question we have to ask right now is, this prophecy is from God, what does it mean? What must we do? And between those two questions, there is a response that is required. Yeah?

There is also the arrow of deliverance from Syria. And that represent our freedom to break out of the grip of enemy activity, the freedom to break out of besetting sin, the sin that always trips us up. Freedom to move away from bondages and mindsets that are about ourselves or about God. It's really important in this window of opportunity, you name your current problems. You write them down. You name them. Cause we need to kill these suckers one by one. It really important you name, it doesn't matter if you got a hundred things on your list. It just means your going to get a hundred breakthroughs. Don't be embarrassed about this; remember your Americans, I'm the British guy. British people are always reticent. American people are usually bold. For goodness sake don't be British. Don't go British on God right now. It's not a pretty sight. Name everything. Why? Cause this is a season of revenge. You can't ask a favor of God with out vengeance against the enemy. The two things go together always.

Strike the enemy at Apheck. Let me just digress for a moment, in 1 Kings 20: let me read you something here. 1 Kings 20:23, this is the arrogance of the enemy, eh, always thinks they got us worked out. It's the evidence of the King of Assyria said to him, their gods, the God of Israel, their god's are Gods of the mountains, therefore, they were stronger than we, cause they just got a defeat, yeah? But let us fight against them in the valley, and surely we will be stronger than they. And so, the advice was, let's muster an army as big as the one we've just lost. And let's fight these guys in the valley, not where they think they're strong.

Now, I tell you I really sense in my spirit, that this Word is not just for us as a church. I think it is a Word for our entire valley. I think it is a Word for all the churches in the valley. I believe it's a Word for everybody who lives in the valley, whether they are Christian or pre-Christian. If we fight against them in the valley, cause the valley, they thought, was the place of weakness. If we fight against them in the valley, we'll win.

It's interesting that, we read on there in verse 27, the sons of Israel were mustered and were provision and went to meet them. And the sons of Israel camped before them like two little flocks of goats, while the Syrians filled the country. Very graphic pictorial illustration, eh? Everything is against us.

Apheck represent an enemy who is overconfident because he thinks he is numerically superior. He doesn't understand the enemy, that one person with God is always in the majority. Israel were vastly outnumbered. But God came with a Word. Verse 28 says, the man of God came near and spoke to the King of Israel and said, Thus says the Lord, the Syrians have said the Lord is a God of the mountains, but He is not a God of the valleys, therefore, I will give all this great multitude into your hand and you shall know that I am the Lord. So they camped one over against the other 7 days and on the 7th day battle was joined and Israel killed 100,000 foot soldiers of the Syrian army. The rest of them fled to Apheck into the city where a wall fell on another 27,000 of them. It's what you know of as a bad hair day. And Israel won. Apheck, which was a place of enemy superiority and our inferiority, now becomes a place of breakthrough where the tables are turned.

So Apheck represents a place of turnover. Those of us who are sports fans, we know that the number of turnovers you get in a basketball game can determine the platform of victory that we are going to achieve. What we must avoid is a shot clock violation.

We have a window of opportunity. We must act within the lifetime of that window. We have to strike the ground. That is, we have to apply the Word of God now to the ground of out circumstances. Strike in this season, until you have destroyed, what is trying to

destroy you.

And the Word of God demands a continuous response. And I'll tell you that if you don't do it, it's because you don't believe it. There is this gap between our hearing the Word, and our doing of it. And that gap must close. So God wants us to go over the top, to be whole hearted. To be zealous for what God is saying to us, to strike the ground, to take every opportunity to get revenge on the enemy.

There's a timeout here. This is a sober moment. I want you to think about something, right now, that's not pleasant. In this account, we see the outcome of a poor response. You see between the Word of Elisha and the action of Joash, there is an incompatibility. And therefore, there is only a partial fulfillment. There is a danger in only going halfway. A halfhearted response will only get a partial breakthrough. And Elisha is rightly angry at Joash the king, because Joash did not enter into the Spirit of the response.

Maybe, I kind of think he must of had an English moment. Sometimes, in my country, we are the worst at responding to something, especially when something dramatic is required. We're also flippin reticent, you know?

So he kind of came forward and just thought you know he's dying. He's an old boy. He's on his last leg. He's pegging out. Maybe, I can humor him. He didn't understand anything of the importance of the situation he was in. And so, when Elisha said strike the ground, he sort of went, well, OK, then. That would be a British thing. Well, OK, if you insist wah, wah, wah. And Elisha was so angry, that he didn't enter into the Spirit of the thing. And looked at him and said, you should have struck the ground 5 or 6 times at least, then you would have had victory over the enemy, fully. But because you only struck the ground 3 times you will only have 3 victories. I wonder how Joash felt on the morning of the 4th battle. When he's standing there, realizing that the power has run out. You should have, then you would have.

I tell you, beloved, in this window, we are either going to obey fully the Word of God or we could live with regret for many years to come. Moment of honesty here, how many times in the past have we known a window of opportunity has been there and we didn't go for it and bitterly regretted it? Don't let it happen again. You should have, they must have been the hardest words in the whole of scripture. You should have, then you would have. But now you will only have this. Our contemporary version is, this is you big chance, don't blow it. It's time to be zealous. A window is open. Five years from today, what will you wish that you had done in this time? Sometimes, beloved, the difference between fulfillment of the promise and total breakthrough and only receiving a partial release is literally your attitude and approach to the season of God that your in.

Wonder if we could have the musicians come back up? Now, I think we are living in days of high drama. We're going to learn how to live by every Word that comes out of the mouth of God. I want to say to you, this is your time, don't hold back. Maybe this is the time to get rid of, be delivered of, your embarrassment or your unbelief, what ever it might be.

We are going to do something symbolic now, to represent our willingness to respond to God fully in the window that is open to us. So if you have an area in your life… maybe the Holy Spirit has just been saying to you, I want to deal with this problem, that problem or this, or this, or this…or. Maybe just right now, your feeling that, right now, your future, your inheritance is going to open up and the Lord is going to want to start showing you, who you're going to be in the season.

I want us all to do something symbolic this morning. I want us to come forward and strike the ground together. So that was an appeal, right there. I want us to come forward to strike the ground. Let me just say that, let's kneel and strike the ground. Those people,

right now, who have a problem, right, with knees or hips or anything like that, come and sit on the steps and strike the steps. The rest of us can kneel on the floor. *(Drums begin)*

Now listen, you're not responding to me. This is your moment to do something with God. And for the next 5 minutes, we're just going to respond. We're just going to strike the ground. We're going to strike the ground and you have in your mind everything, everything that you want to receive from God. You have it in your mind. Everything that you want to get rid of, everything that you want to get rid of, you strike the ground. And don't strike it like an English person. Strike it like an American. Strike it like a pioneer. Strike it like somebody who wants revenge. This is your season. This is your moment. You need to do this thing. Strike the ground like you're going to respond.

Lord, we strike the ground, in the Name of Jesus. Lord, we're striking the ground, in the Name of Jesus. Lord, we want a breakthrough. We want this to be a season of breakthrough, in the name of Jesus. Lord, we pray that the anointing would come upon this church. Let the anointing come upon this valley, in the Name of Jesus. Let the anointing come upon every church in this valley. Lord, we're striking the ground for ourselves. We're striking the ground for our church. We're striking the ground for this valley, in the name of Jesus. We're striking the ground for this valley, in the name of Jesus. Father, in the name of Jesus come, come, cause us to breakthrough on the right hand and on the left. Lord, we're here and we're saying we're going to cooperate with you. We're going to cooperate with you. We're going to cooperate with you. We're going to cooperate. We're going to let the Word and the Spirit combine in our lives. We're going to get breakthroughs on the right hand and on the left. That which is troubling you, that which is against us, we're going to get a breakthrough. We're going to be delivered of those things. We're going to see ourselves as you see us. We're going have breakthrough in all that we should become, in the Name of Jesus. Father we willing and joyfully strike the ground.

We strike the ground, we strike the ground, Father. We strike it for ourselves. We strike it for our families We strike it for our friendships. We strike it for this church. We strike it for this valley, in the name of Jesus. We strike it for all the promises of God, in this place. Father, give us revenge over our adversary. Give us revenge over our adversary. Give us revenge over our adversary, in the name of Jesus. Lord, cause us to rise up. Cause us to rise up. Cause us to rise up with a fresh identity, fresh anointing, a new zeal, a new power, a new energy, in the name of Jesus, to fulfill all your purposes in these days, Father, in Jesus' name. Lord, we strike the ground. We strike the ground for our children. We strike the ground for our friends. We strike the ground, Lord, for our families, in the name of Jesus. Father, move by your power. We strike the ground for our home. We strike the ground for our finances. We strike the ground, Lord, for our businesses, in the name of Jesus. We strike the ground for our own spirituality, Lord, in Jesus name. Let breakthrough come, Father. Let break through come, Father. Let breakthrough come, Father, in the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus. Lord, let breakthrough come. Let breakthrough come. Let breakthrough come, Father. Let breakthrough come, Father. Let it come. Let it come, Lord. Let it come. Lord, make a way in this season. Lord, thank you for opening the window. Thank you for opening a window. Thank you for opening a window, Lord. Lord God, we bless you. We bless your name, Lord. We bless your name, Lord. We bless your name.

You know I feel like the Lord has given me a Word for all the men in this church. This is a Word for the men specifically. I believe the Lord is saying, it's time for us to rise up, and be strong in the Spirit and be vigilant in the Spirit. I believe guys there is a breakthrough Spirit upon you. I think in particular to protect your wives and girlfriends and your daughters, to protect widows and orphans, children in need. This area needs to see strong men rising in the power of the Holy Spirit. And we're going to see that. There's an anointing upon you to be men of God in this place. And you're going to come into a place in the Spirit where you can become like the modern day equivalent of David's mighty men: captains of ten, captains of 50, captains of 100. I tell you I believe that the

anointing on the men in this church can cause a leadership anointing to come upon us, in small ways and in really big and significant ways. The Lord is looking at you and saying, I see a man of God. I see a man of God. I see a man of God. I see a man of God. I see a man of God. I see a man of God. I see a man of God. I see men of God. I see men of God. I see men of God. I see men, men of God, men of God, men of God. I see men, I see men of God, men of God, men of God rising up in this place with an anointing that can not be denied. I see leadership gifts rising up in this place upon us. We are going lead from the small to the great. I see leaders of small groups rising. I see leaders of 100's rising. There will be an extraordinary anointing, I believe, on the men in this valley, something that will be a focal point of astonishment of anybody looking in to this place.

So Father, here we are. We believe today, Lord God, you have declared open season on the enemy in our life. Thank you, Lord, hunting season is open in the Spirit and we are going to hunt down, we are going to hunt down and destroy everything that raises its head against the person of Christ in our lives in this valley. We believe, Lord, that you have declared to us, this is a window in heaven. And Lord, our coming down and striking the ground is our way of saying, we will cooperate in this season. We will cooperate in this season. We will learn obedience. We will learn authority. We will learn power.

Beloved, in this next week, we're going to get together to think about a strategy… some things that we know that God wants us to do together and so on. In this coming week, when you sit down before the Lord, He's going to show you two things. The first one is you should make a list of all the things that God is going to attack in your life, yeah? And understand the joy of the Lord, He's going to put His finger on that and He's going to break it, finger on that and break it, all that. What your making is a list of all you breakthroughs in this season, yeah?

The second thing you should do sit down and ask the Lord, show me who I am. I think for many of us we've got prophetic words over our lives. We should trot them out and have a look. You've got things that have been spoken over us verses that God has given us in times past. That's a good place to begin, yeah?

But ask the Lord the question, Father would you give me a vision, maybe a dream or a vision, or a sense of who I'm going to be in this next phase of my life. And start to write those things down right, yeah. Cause on those two sheets of paper is going to be all the power and all the promises and you've got a focus for what God is going to do. And then, we're going to be asking, Lord on this list of breakthroughs, which one do we tackle first? Me and you, yeah? And then over the next few weeks, we're going to develop a strategy that enables us to do the things that God wants us to do.

What I would ask of you, I want to say is, that strategy is not always going to be on a Sunday morning. There maybe time when we call together extraordinary meetings, cause we feel there might be a breakthrough night. I'm just giving you fair warning OK? Don't miss any opportunity to breakthrough. If you have to put other things on hold for a while remember this season is not going to be open for long. If you have to put other things on hold put them on hold. Yeah? But make sure you cooperate with God with in this season that God has given you. Brilliant!

Let me bless you. Let's all stand up and let's assume the position hands out in front, yeah? Father, we bless you. Then we're just going to worship God together, just as another sign of ours, just to say, this is what we want, Father. So I bless you in the Name of Jesus Christ. I declare to you, you are going to see the enormity of God in a way that you've never seen it before. Be ready. I bless you with a prepared heart. I bless you with a ready and willing mind. I bless you with a spirit that's going to say, yes, continuously to all that God is going to be and do for you in Jesus' name. Amen! Worship

Pastor Dave:

Let me just address you for just a moment. It was about 2 years ago that we stood on this platform. My wife and I and Graham and Heather, and as a church we embraced the prophetic coming into this church and the prophet that God was sending to us to help declare that prophetic into this body. I'd like everyone to listen please. Thank you. And, as a body, we committed not just to receive these two people, but to receive what they brought to the body. And to take that Word, that would be delivered through them, into our lives and do something with it. And I …there's some corporate things that we have to respond to. We want to respond to, and we will be working on those things. But there are some personal things to, that Graham has already mentioned this morning, that we need to personally respond to this Word. One of the things that I've noticed growing up in the church, having been in the church all my life, is that we take the Word at the moment, and enjoy it and then walk away from it. We can not afford to do that. Ah, because that is how you miss the window of opportunity that God brings. And so I just want to challenge you to…to take seriously what you've heard today. And we'll be putting on our web-site, the code that Graham gave today, that passage, so we'll put that on the web-site so that you can download that, you can get that off our web site this week. Cause I think that those are all important elements to understanding this Word and to responding to this Word. So we'll make that available this week and also that the, ah, questions that he gave us just a moment ago. I know that you didn't have time to write them down, didn't have a pencil or pen. We'll put those on our web site so that you can be reminded of the questions that you need to ask the Lord this week and the things that you need to explore this week.

. It's just, it's just so important that we understand, this is, this is not just a Word that we can listen to this morning and walk away from. And I think that if we will begin to learn that now, we can learn that every time we hear the Word of the Lord, cause we can learn to apply those things and let the fruit of that be part of our lives then and not just something that we thought was good for the moment. Understand what I'm saying? And ah this is for all of us individually. This is a time of breakthrough, this is time, a season of opportunity that God has placed in our hands. And as we get, it's not a matter of now, now let's work, it's now let's grab a hold of what God has for us and take hold of the Words and battle with those Words and war with those Words of prophetic insight that God's given us. It's just an awesome time. This is a season and we are going to be able to be the ones to tell the stories of what God has done and will do, as we walk in this, in this season. Amen? All right well, ah well. Why don't you go back to you seats for just a moment. We're going to stand and declare some things in the Spirit in a worship song here in just a moment, so get that song, keep it warmed up, and ah, In just a moment we're going to stand together, sing a song together. And while we sing that song, we're going to bring our offerings to the Lord. It's interesting that this got this down here this morning. We've often talked about a war chest. And part of the breakthrough that, not only corporately but individually, many, many people need is a breakthrough in their finances. How many of you can use a breakthrough in your finances? How many of you would like one? OK, and as we sing this song and declare the Lordship of Christ over this city, bring your offering and tithes and you can place them in the war chest. But there's one other thing that we need you help with. Joyce would you come quickly. And ah we have, last week we, ah, gave an opportunity to help in the children's ministry, and ah, minister in that way. And ah, many people did respond, we thank you very much ah. But there may have been some misunderstanding as to who could and who couldn't, who needed to and who didn't so we want to clarify that.

Action

1. Make a list of all the things that God is going to attack in your life.
   In addition, which one do we tackle first?

2. Ask the Lord to show you a vision or a sense of who you are going to be in this next season.